REMARKS

Claims 76-171 are pending in the present application.

The only outstanding rejection is of claims 76-171 under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Grobecker et al (International Angiology article) in view of what is described as Applicants' admissions.

As grounds for the rejection, the Office Action states "Gorbecker et al presents pharmacokinetical date [sic] comparing midodrine and desglymidodrine when administered by i.v. and orally," and that as a metabolite of midodrine, desglymidodrine "would therefore be expected to have the same properties as midodrine when administered orally in tablet form."

However, no evidence has been presented to substantiate the position that desglymidodrine would be expected to have the same properties as midodrine as alleged in the Office Action.

The rejection is traversed.

Representative pending independent claims read as follows:

Claim 76. A solid pharmaceutical composition for oral use comprising desglymidodrine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

Claim 116. A pharmaceutical kit comprising a composition comprising midodrine and a composition comprising a solid oral dosage form of desglymidodrine.

Claim 125. A method for treating a patient suffering from conditions selected from the group consisting of orthostatic hypotension, syncope, urinary incontinence and urinary stress incontinence, the method comprising orally administering the composition according to claim 76 to a patient in need thereof.

Grobecker et al nowhere discloses administering desglymidodrine. Instead, Gorbecker et al merely reports administering midodrine. Nowhere do Grobecker et al report that the administration of desglymidodrine to patients would be desirable or that it would be possible to make compositions of desglymidodrine suitable for administration to achieve a therapeutic effect.

In contrast, Applicants pending claims call for pharmaceutical compositions, pharmaceutical kits, and methods for treating patients with **desglymidodrine**.

For such reasons, the rejection is properly withdrawn. See MPEP Section 2143.03 ("To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art.")

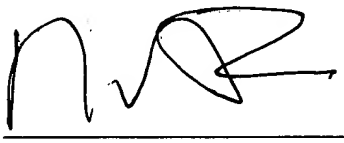
To apparently compensate for such deficiencies of the Grobecker et al document, as noted above, in the Office Action, allegations are made that desglymidodrine would be expected to have "the same properties as midodrine".

Applicants traverse that assertion, including because the assertion is unsubstantiated. If the position is to be maintained, Applicants respectfully request that appropriate substantiating evidence be made of record. See, for instance, MPEP § 2144.03 ("When a rejection is based on the facts within the personal knowledge of the examiner, the data should be stated as specifically as possible, and the facts must be supported, when called for by the applicant, by an affidavit from the examiner.")

In view thereof, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested.

It is believed the application is in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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